



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

CROATIA

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Participant Training Program

Since 1994, USAID-funded training exposed over 2,200 Croatian professionals to different ways the U.S. and other countries address similar challenges.



USAID co-funded study trips for six Croatian commercial court judges to the Nashville, Tennessee's Bankruptcy Court, in cooperation with and financial support from the U.S. National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. The result has been a very positive and unique exposure of Croatian commercial, municipal and county court judges to efficient and effective U.S. case and bankruptcy management practices that will serve to facilitate the Croatian transition to automated systems and effective court management.

"This program was all the more meaningful because the Zagreb Commercial Court and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court memorialized their Sister Court relationship at the office of the Mayor of Nashville"

Implementer: World Learning

U.S. Agency for International Development
www.usaid.gov

Croatia's greatest resource is the talents and resources of its people. The introduction of life-long learning in developed countries has led to a major increase in productivity and innovation. Skilled Croatians are needed to restructure economic, political, judicial and civil institutions--a major requirement for EU accession. To address this need USAID has financed professional training for over 2200 Croatians since 1994.

USAID-funded training helps Croatians build new skills. More importantly, it offers Croatians exposure to different ways the United States and other countries address challenges similar to their own. USAID-funded training also improved technical capabilities, changed attitudes, and stimulated new ideas and innovation. It also helped solve every-day problems. Each training event was carefully tailored to support the aims of U.S. assistance and be relevant to the participating professional. As a result of USAID training, many participants established long-term contacts with their counterparts in other countries.

Participants come from diverse fields and areas of expertise in Croatia: government and ministry officials, parliamentarians, judges, state attorneys, mayors, NGO representatives, media, local government officials, bankers, business managers, tourism sector representatives, leaders and experts from trade unions and employers association etc.

Results

USAID training helped Croatian parliamentarians introduce public hearings at the Croatian National Parliament. Eleven parliamentarians attended a training program in Washington State to learn about the role of legislative committees, and in particular, the incorporation of citizens views in the policy development process.

Officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Ministry of European Integration and from Croatian Chamber of Commerce used an USAID study tour to the Czech Republic to prepare a plan for allocating and dispersing European Union accession funds in Croatia.

USAID training helped a leading company and an NGO for guide dogs for the blind to form a partnership that raised approximately \$60,000 for the NGO.